

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

5 January 1973

Memo for Mr. Schlesinger

Here's some material I hope will be useful:

- a. Possible questions and some suggested answers.
- b. Records of confirmation hearings of previous Directors and Deputy Directors.
- c. Text of the 1970 "Fulbright amendment" and comment thereon.
- d. A 1966 U.S. News and World Report interview with Admiral Raborn containing answers to some of the more frequently asked questions about the Agency.
- e. Excerpts from a little handout on the Agency containing the text of our legislation and a brief statement of our missions and functions.
- f. Biographic material on Committee members.

Let me know if you need anything further.

I hope you will drop by sometime after 5:30 Saturday

[Redacted]

Sincerely,

John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

Enclosures

Q. Have you a statement to make ?

A. I have submitted (or am submitting) for the record a biographic statement. In summary, my background is as follows...

I have also prepared a statement of my financial interests which has been reviewed by the General Counsel of the Agency and he tells me he finds nothing in it indicating a conflict of interest.

I would be glad to make it available to the Committee if you wish.

Q. What do you believe to be your qualifications for this important assignment ?

A.

Q. As Assistant Director of OMB, I presume you had an opportunity to look into the operation of the intelligence community. What are your views about the management of the community? About possible waste or duplication among the intelligence agencies? Whether the community produces an unmanageable and unnecessary volume of intelligence material.

A.

Q. What specific proposals do you have in mind to promote greater efficiency and economy in the national intelligence effort?

A.

Q. There have been a number of complaints about the high cost of the national intelligence effort. On the basis of your experience in OMB, do you believe it is possible to achieve significant cuts in the national intelligence budget without impairing the intelligence needed for national security? If so, how big a cut do you think might be feasible?

A.

Q. At the time of the announcement of your nomination the press indicated there might be major organizational changes in the Agency. What do you have in mind in this regard?

A.

Q. Do you have any specific instructions regarding the discharge of your new duties as to the intelligence community generally and as to the CIA?

A.

Q. How long do you intend to remain in the position of Director of CIA?

A.

Q. Do you view your nomination to replace Mr. Helms at this particular time as having political implications for the intelligence function?

A. No sir, indeed I think it highly important that the intelligence community and its leadership remain strictly apolitical. I think experience proves that if intelligence becomes contaminated by political considerations it loses its credibility and indeed its utility.

Q. While in OMB did you prepare any written studies or analyses regarding the intelligence community dealing with such questions as improving its coordination, clarifying its functions, etc., and if so, could copies of these be made available to the Committee?

A.

Q. As Director of Central Intelligence you bear two responsibilities-- the administration of the CIA and the coordination of the intelligence community. Do you expect to be able to fully discharge these

responsibilities yourself or do you visualize devoting your main attention to the community and delegating to your Deputy the day-to-day operation of the CIA?

A. I will of course bear the full responsibilities for discharging all the duties imposed upon me by law. Subject to this I will of course delegate certain day-to-day managerial functions.

Q. What are your views about the non-intelligence activities of CIA such as masterminding the coup in Iran in the early 1950s, the involvement in the National Student Association, the Bay of Pigs operation and the war in Laos?

A. Experience of the past has indicated that involvement of the Agency in activities of such a nature or scope that they cannot be conducted clandestinely has created serious difficulties. I would hope that operations of this kind would not be imposed

upon the Agency in the future, since I think they tend to undermine the discipline and security essential to an effective intelligence organization.

Q. It is sometimes charged that CIA creates or unduly influences American policy. What are your views?

A. Obviously intelligence has an impact on policy decisions but it is my understanding that it was the intent of Congress when the Agency was established that it scrupulously stick to its intelligence contribution and avoid direct participation in policy formulation. If confirmed this would certainly be my policy.

Q. What do you believe to be your responsibilities and obligations to keep the Congress informed regarding operations and activities of the intelligence community?

A. It is my understanding that in the past the Directors of Central Intelligence have kept the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees fully informed with respect to the activities, operations, expenditures, etc., of the CIA. I of course would propose to continue this policy and to be responsive to other committees regarding activities within their purview and over which I have authority.

Q. What do you believe to be your responsibilities and obligations to provide intelligence information to the Congress?

A. I understand that in the past the Directors of Central Intelligence have regularly provided the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees with intelligence information of interest to them and also with the approval of the chairmen of these committees have

provided intelligence information to other committees on matters within their purview.

Q. What would be your policies regarding the providing of intelligence information or other information regarding the intelligence community to individual members of the Congress?

A. I would hope to be as responsive as possible to all congressional requests, subject to the approval of the chairmen of the intelligence oversight committees.

Q. What are your views regarding proposals for the creation of a joint committee of the Congress to oversee the intelligence community?

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A.

Q. A good deal of concern has been expressed lately about excessive secrecy and overclassification by various Government agencies, including the intelligence agencies. This excessive secrecy has often given rise to suspicions that these agencies are engaged in sinister activities, or using the shield of secrecy to cover up their mistakes. Would you favor a policy of more open disclosure regarding intelligence activities except where matters of genuine sensitivity are concerned?

A. I would assume that the intelligence agencies are certainly not immune from the common bureaucratic tendency to overclassify and I would hope to correct any abuses of this sort. But I do

not think it is realistic to believe that an intelligence agency can do its job if it conducts most of its activities in public.

✓ It must, as the National Security Act of 1947 recognizes, protect its sources and methods.

Q. I understand that the National Intelligence Estimate is the final end product of the intelligence process--the most definitive intelligence assessment of matters affecting the national security. What would be your position regarding making these estimates available to the Congress or at least appropriate committees of the Congress?

- A. These are documents which are prepared primarily, if not exclusively, for the use of the President and his highest policy advisors in the formulation of national policy. However I understand that most of the information on which these estimates are based is provided the Congress in the course of regular Agency briefings. (If pressed further you might say that frankly, you are not sure whether you have the authority to release this material to the Congress but will look into the matter.)